

Application No.: 09/073,748

PATENT  
Docket No. EPI-003 US  
7007962001

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 133, 140-141, 144-149, 156, and 159-163; cancel claims 135, 143, and 151; and add new claims 166-189, as follows.

133. (Currently Amended) A method of generating one or more database systems, the method comprising:

providing a metadata system that includes a metadata schema, a facility for entering instructions into the metadata schema, and a facility for manipulating the metadata schema;

receiving instructions from a user, wherein the instructions are entered into the metadata schema and are used to create a business database system; and automatically generating the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema such that the business database system is well-formed;

extracting data from sources specified in the instructions;

loading the data into staging tables; and

loading the data from the staging tables into the business database system based on semantic definitions provided in the instructions.

134. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 133, wherein automatically generating the business database system further comprises:

automatically generating tables according to the instructions.

Application No.: 09/073,748

PATENT  
Docket No. EPI-003 US  
7007962001

135. (Cancelled)

136. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 133, further comprising:  
building aggregate tables according to the instructions.

137. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 133, wherein operating on the business database system further comprises:

receiving further instructions from a user to define a query mechanism; and  
generating queries according to the further instructions.

138. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 133, wherein operating on the business database system further comprises:

generating reports according to the instructions.

139. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 133, further comprising:  
receiving a modification of the metadata schema; and  
automatically adjusting the business database system according to the modification.

140. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 133, further comprising: A method of generating one or more database systems, the method comprising:~~  
~~providing a metadata system that includes a metadata schema, a facility for entering instructions into the metadata schema, and a facility for manipulating the metadata schema;~~

Application No.: 09/073,748

PATENT  
Docket No. EPI-003 US  
7007962001

receiving instructions from a user, wherein the instructions are entered into the metadata schema and are used to create a business database system; and automatically generating the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema such that the business database system is well-formed,  
wherein the instructions provide semantic definitions; and  
wherein the business database system is automatically generated using the semantic definitions such that the business database system is well-formed.

141. (Currently Amended) A computer system, comprising:

a computer including a processor and a memory;  
a computer program stored in the memory and executed by the processor,  
wherein the computer program includes computer instructions for:  
providing a metadata system that includes a metadata schema, a facility for entering instructions into the metadata schema, and a facility for manipulating the metadata schema;  
receiving instructions from a user, wherein the instructions are entered into the metadata schema and are used to create a business database system; and automatically generating the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema such that the business database system is well-formed;  
extracting data from sources specified in the instructions;

Application No.: 09/073,748

PATENT  
Docket No. EPI-003 US  
7007962001

loading the data into staging tables; and

loading the data from the staging tables into the business database system based  
on semantic definitions provided in the instructions.

142. (Previously Presented) The computer system of claim 141, wherein the computer program further includes computer instructions for:  
automatically generating tables according to the instructions.

143. (Cancelled)

144. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ computer system of claim 141, wherein the computer program further includes computer instructions for:  
building aggregate tables according to the instructions.

145. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ computer system of claim 141, wherein the computer program further includes computer instructions for:  
receiving further instructions from a user to define a query mechanism; and  
generating queries according to the further instructions.

146. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ computer system of claim 141, wherein the computer program further includes computer instructions for:  
generating reports according to the instructions.

147. (Currently Amended) The ~~method~~ computer system of claim 141, wherein the computer program further includes computer instructions for:

Application No.: 09/073,748

PATENT  
Docket No. EPI-003 US  
7007962001

receiving a modification of the metadata schema; and  
automatically adjusting the business database system according to the  
modification.

148. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 141, wherein the computer program further includes computer instructions for: A computer system, comprising:~~  
~~a computer including a processor and a memory;~~  
~~a computer program stored in the memory and executed by the processor,~~  
~~wherein the computer program includes computer instructions for:~~  
~~providing a metadata system that includes a metadata schema, a facility for entering instructions into the metadata schema, and a facility for manipulating the metadata schema;~~  
~~receiving instructions from a user, wherein the instructions are entered into the metadata schema and are used to create a business database system; and~~  
~~automatically generating the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema such that the business database system is well-formed,~~  
wherein the instructions provide semantic definitions; and  
wherein the business database system is automatically generated using the semantic definitions such that the business database system is well-formed.

149. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium encoded with software instructions, wherein execution of the instructions comprises:

Application No.: 09/073,748

PATENT  
Docket No. EPI-003 US  
7007962001

providing a metadata system that includes a metadata schema, a facility for entering instructions into the metadata schema, and a facility for manipulating the metadata schema;  
receiving instructions from a user, wherein the instructions are entered into the metadata schema and are used to create a business database system; and automatically generating the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema such that the business database system is well-formed;

extracting data from sources specified in the instructions;  
loading the data into staging tables; and  
loading the data from the staging tables into the business database system based on semantic definitions provided in the instructions.

150. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 149, wherein execution of the instructions further comprises:

automatically generating tables according to the instructions.

151. (Cancelled)

152. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 149, wherein execution of the instructions further comprises:

building aggregate tables according to the instructions.

Application No.: 09/073,748

PATENT  
Docket No. EPI-003 US  
7007962001

153. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 149, wherein execution of the instructions further comprises:

receiving further instructions from a user to define a query mechanism; and generating queries according to the further instructions.

154. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 149, wherein execution of the instructions further comprises:

generating reports according to the instructions.

155. (Previously Presented) The computer readable storage medium of claim 149, wherein execution of the instructions further comprises:

receiving a modification of the metadata schema; and automatically adjusting the business database system according to the modification.

156. (Currently Amended) The computer readable storage medium of claim 149, wherein execution of the instructions further comprises: A computer readable storage medium encoded with software instructions, wherein execution of the instructions comprises:

providing a metadata system that includes a metadata schema, a facility for entering instructions into the metadata schema, and a facility for manipulating the metadata schema;

receiving instructions from a user, wherein the instructions are entered into the metadata schema and are used to create a business database system; and

Application No.: 09/073,748

PATENT  
Docket No. EPI-003 US  
7007962001

automatically generating the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema such that the business database system is well-formed,  
wherein the instructions provide semantic definitions; and  
wherein the business database system is automatically generated using the semantic definitions such that the business database system is well-formed.

157. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 133, further comprising loading data into the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema.

158. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 157, further comprising operating on the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema.

159. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 141, further comprising The computer system of claim 141, wherein the computer program further includes computer instructions for~~  
loading data into the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema.

160. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 159 further comprising The computer system of claim 159, wherein the computer program further includes computer instructions for~~  
operating on the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema.

161. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 149 further comprising The computer readable storage medium of claim 149, wherein execution of the instructions further comprises~~

Application No.: 09/073,748

PATENT  
Docket No. EPI-003 US  
7007962001

loading data into the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema.

162. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 161 further comprising The computer readable storage medium of claim 161, wherein execution of the instructions further comprises~~ operating on the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema.

163. (Currently Amended) A method of automatically generating a business database system, the method comprising:

providing a metadata schema;

entering user instructions into the metadata schema; and

automatically generating a well-formed database system according to the instructions entered into the metadata schema;

extracting data from sources specified in the instructions;

loading the data into staging tables; and

loading the data from the staging tables into the business database system based on semantic definitions provided in the instructions.

164. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 163, further comprising loading data into the automatically-generated business database system according to the user instructions entered into the metadata schema.

Application No.: 09/073,748

PATENT  
Docket No. EPI-003 US  
7007962001

165. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 164, further comprising operating on the business database system according to the user instructions entered into the metadata schema.

166. (New) A method of automatically generating a business database system, the method comprising:

providing a metadata schema;

entering user instructions into the metadata schema; and

automatically generating a well-formed database system according to the instructions entered into the metadata schema,

wherein the instructions provide semantic definitions; and

wherein the business database system is automatically generated using the semantic definitions such that the business database system is well-formed.

167. (New) The method of claim 166, further comprising loading data into the automatically-generated business database system according to the user instructions entered into the metadata schema.

168. (New) The method of claim 167, further comprising operating on the business database system according to the user instructions entered into the metadata schema.

169. (New) The method of claim 140, wherein automatically generating the business database system further comprises:

automatically generating tables according to the instructions.

Application No.: 09/073,748

PATENT  
Docket No. EPI-003 US  
7007962001

170. (New) The method of claim 140, further comprising:  
building aggregate tables according to the instructions.

171. (New) The method of claim 140, wherein operating on the business database system  
further comprises:  
receiving further instructions from a user to define a query mechanism; and  
generating queries according to the further instructions.

172. (New) The method of claim 140, wherein operating on the business database system  
further comprises:  
generating reports according to the instructions.

173. (New) The method of claim 140, further comprising:  
receiving a modification of the metadata schema; and  
automatically adjusting the business database system according to the  
modification.

174. (New) The method of claim 140, further comprising loading data into the business  
database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema.

175. (New) The method of claim 174, further comprising operating on the business database  
system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema.

176. (New) The computer system of claim 148, wherein the computer program further  
includes computer instructions for:

Application No.: 09/073,748

PATENT  
Docket No. EPI-003 US  
7007962001

automatically generating tables according to the instructions.

177. (New) The computer system of claim 148, wherein the computer program further includes computer instructions for:

building aggregate tables according to the instructions.

178. (New) The computer system of claim 148, wherein the computer program further includes computer instructions for:

receiving further instructions from a user to define a query mechanism; and generating queries according to the further instructions.

179. (New) The computer system of claim 148, wherein the computer program further includes computer instructions for:

generating reports according to the instructions.

180. (New) The computer system of claim 148, wherein the computer program further includes computer instructions for:

receiving a modification of the metadata schema; and

automatically adjusting the business database system according to the modification.

181. (New) The computer system of claim 148, wherein the computer program further includes computer instructions for:

Application No.: 09/073,748

PATENT  
Docket No. EPI-003 US  
7007962001

loading data into the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema.

182. (New) The computer system of claim 181, wherein the computer program further includes computer instructions for:

operating on the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema.

183. (New) The computer readable storage medium of claim 156, wherein execution of the instructions further comprises:

automatically generating tables according to the instructions.

184. (New) The computer readable storage medium of claim 156, wherein execution of the instructions further comprises:

building aggregate tables according to the instructions.

185. (New) The computer readable storage medium of claim 156, wherein execution of the instructions further comprises:

receiving further instructions from a user to define a query mechanism; and

generating queries according to the further instructions.

186. (New) The computer readable storage medium of claim 156, wherein execution of the instructions further comprises:

generating reports according to the instructions.

Application No.: 09/073,748

PATENT  
Docket No. EPI-003 US  
7007962001

187. (New) The computer readable storage medium of claim 156, wherein execution of the instructions further comprises:

receiving a modification of the metadata schema; and

automatically adjusting the business database system according to the modification.

188. (New) The computer readable storage medium of claim 156, wherein execution of the instructions further comprises loading data into the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema.

189. (New) The computer readable storage medium of claim 188, wherein execution of the instructions further comprises operating on the business database system according to the instructions contained in the metadata schema.